

9. A process of forming a composite structure by applying a barrier to an underlying substrate during fabrication of the composite structure, including the steps of: introducing a fire resisting agent to the barrier after formation thereof; and attaching the barrier to the substrate before completing the fabrication of the composite structure; the barrier being an intumescent mat and the fire resisting agent being a phenolic resin.

12. A process of forming a composite structure by applying a barrier to an underlying substrate during fabrication of the composite structure, including the steps of: introducing a fire resisting agent to the barrier after formation thereof; and attaching the barrier to the substrate before completing the fabrication of the composite structure; said attaching of the barrier being performed by bonding thereof to the substrate by application of an adhesive between the barrier and the substrate.

13. A process of forming a composite structure by applying a barrier to an underlying substrate during fabrication of the composite structure, including the steps of: introducing a fire resisting agent to the barrier after formation thereof; and attaching the barrier to the substrate before completing the fabrication of the composite structure; said attaching of the barrier being effected in response to said introducing of the fire resisting agent by infusion into the barrier during formation of the substrate.

16. A process for protective fabrication of a composite structure by applying a barrier layer after formation of the composite structure to an underlying substrate, the improvement residing in the steps of: introducing a fire resisting agent by in-situ infusion into the barrier layer after said

formation thereof; and attaching the barrier layer with the fire resisting agent infused therein to the substrate before completing said fabrication of the composite structure; said step of attaching the barrier layer to the substrate being effected without use of adhesive by formation of the substrate during said in-situ infusion of the fire resisting agent into the barrier layer.

Cancel claims 4, 5, 7 and 11 without prejudice.